

A CENTURY AND A HALF

AN ANCIENT CHURCH ORGANIZATION—ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, GREENFIELD HILL, CONN.—REUNIONS, REMINISCENCES AND AN HISTORICAL ADDRESS.

GREENFIELD HILL, May 18, 1876.

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the Congregational church, Greenfield Hill, Conn., took place, today, a large number of persons from all parts of the State being present.

The church was elegantly decorated with flowers. The pulpit and altar were literally covered with natural blossoms, prominent among which appeared a peaceful mound, displaying the figures 1726-1876. On the walls of the church appeared the names of

pastors from the organization to the present
—Rev. John Goodsell, 1720–1750; Rev. Seth
Comery, 1765–1787; Rev. William Yennett, D. D.,
1782–1781; Rev. Timothy Dwight, D. D., 1783–1796;
Rev. Mr. Holley, 1805–1808; Rev. William Beffon,
1812–1821; Rev. Richard V. Day, 1822–1828; Rev.
Thomas B. Sturges, 1842–1857; Rev. R. Percy Hub-
bard, 1858–1857; Rev. Henry B. Smith, 1873–1875.
The American flag was conspicuously entwined among
the arms of the candleabra above the pulpit.

Judge Thomas Bradford Dwight, of Columbia College,
New York, a grandson of President Dwight, was Presi-
dent of the day. The exercises consisted of prayer by
the pastor, a lecture by the clerk and speaking by former
members of the parish.

In his historical address, Rev. Henry B. Smith, pas-
tor, referred to the struggles of the early settlers with
the Indians. He said that the first Catholic priest ever
to visit the Indians of the Sagadahoc region was the
tribes of Pequot in Saco Swamp in 1639; of the
establishment of the parish under a decree issued by

ing George II.; of the first bell which was obtained and was first rung in 1743—a bell deemed to be so valuable that it was thought by the committee in charge, the vestry and the churchwardens, that it was worth the step prior to its elevation to the belfry was in the pastor's parish. He referred to the peculiar ideas held by the people of the time, and to the fact that the manner of paying the pastor's salary and of the longer which made up that payment. In those years it was three or four hundred dollars was considered as a good salary, and the people were not so reaching, and the pay was not wholly in money. The pastor referred to one clergyman's accepting 20 pounds a year for his salary, and another's accepting a bushel of corn, a cord of wood and 2 barrels of cider as a portion of his salary, adding that he was only too willing to accept even those articles. He alluded to the existence of the slave trade, and to the fact that the people of the country were in bondage held by men who considered themselves as standing high in a religious sense. He then referred to the fact that the people of the country were producing 20,000 bushels in one year

Having been sent to market, their descendants devote their principal time to the growing of cotton. They are true to the traditions of their ancestors, his predecessors, and pictured their characteristics, citing the Rev. Timothy Dwight as one of the most distinguished of their forefathers. The speaker was addressing the people of Fairfield, among them were those known to be guilty of stealing from their neighbors, and he said that the people did not take the slightest of the restoration of all that was unlawfully taken. The speaker added, "Oh! that Dr. Dwight had lived to see the day when the people of this country in high places who are prone to make light of their responsibilities in the conduct of public affairs at the expense of the people, would be induced to turn from the error of their ways!"

The church which the early inhabitants built was burned in 1858. By the proceeds of a \$6,000 natural gas well, a subscription was raised and a new church erected in 1854. The speaker stated that Fairfield, which Greenfield is a hamlet, was never fairly troubled

men of this place who had so boldly advanced to the country's defence during the time that "trial men's bulwark." He exhibited the sword of Captain Ebenezer Benson, a relic of the Revolution, and also some of the many quaint ancient manuscripts. He concluded by alluding to Greenfield as one of the loveliest places of the Connecticut coast, and then he turned to the choir of the church in which he was speaking, mentioning the spires of seventeen churches in as many different towns.

After the singing exercises closed with "Auld Lang Syne," the congregation joining.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

In the afternoon the address was delivered by Professor Timothy Dwight, of Yale College, New Haven.

There was a collection by the ladies in the basement of the church, in which invited guests and the public participated.

DESCENDANTS OF EARLY INHABITANTS.

Among the invited guests present who are descendants of the early people of Greenfield Hill were Mr.

REAL ESTATE SALES.

The sales at the Exchange yesterday comprised the following pieces of property:—

John H. Draper sold, in foreclosure, a tract of land belonging to the Four-In-Hand Club, containing two and one-quarter acres, located on Northern avenue, east side, near Port Washington, for \$26,500, to J. G. Kraus Forest.

R. V. Harnett sold, in foreclosure, a house on north side of 124th street, with lot 29x100x11, 265 feet east of north avenue, for \$15,000, to Mary E. Dwyer, the

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Henry Columbus to Richard G. Higgins	40,000
241	200
W. Ogden and wife to John O. Higgins and wife	40,000
242	200
Thomas Keller, Jr. to Matthew Day	30,000
243	200
Charles K. S. to a corner of Woster, 25x35; Lee	50,000
244	200
Water, at a corner of Woster, 25x37, 40	50,000
245	200
10th st. N. 40x70, W. of 11th av. 10x101, 11	11,000
William Winterson (reference), to John H. Weydall and	4,000
246	200
do, S. N. 150 ft. W. of 3d av. 50x153, 5	4,000
247	200
William P. to 200 ft. W. of 6th av. 25x100, same to	16,000
248	200
William F. Earle	16,000
249	200
James J. (reference), to A. Kohl	5,000
250	200
P. J. N. R. (reference), to John Egan	2,400
251	200
do, S. N. 218 ft. W. of 9d av. 163x100, 10	10,750
252	200
SOURCES	
253	200
Isaac, to Richard and wife, of J. J. Clark, N. 1	2,000
254	200
of 10th st. west, 40 ft. N. 1 year	2,000
255	200
George Henry and wife, to Anton Ewing, Johnson	200

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1 year.....	50
John, Charles H., to Edgar H. Richards, n. s. of	50,000
21st st., w. of 31st st.; 3 years.....	7,000
Teichert, Solomon and others, to J. A. J. Auer (ex-	
ension), n. e. corner of 4th and 20th st.; 3 years.....	40,000
Thompson, C., to Thomas D. Adams, n. s. of	
51st st., e. of 3d st.; 3 years.....	50,000
Thorpe, J. W., to J. W. Wells, to Joseph H. Wells,	
corner of Blocker and Wooster; installments.....	6,000
Tracy, J. C., to Edward M. Willett, No. 61 Gar-	
mine st.; 3 years.....	600

MRS. WALKER'S CASE.

The **HERALD** has received \$5 from an unknown correspondent for Mrs. Walker, the centenarian, who is sick and destitute. The money will be duly forwarded to her.